

PEOPLE'S VOICE

BY LYMAN BRUGLE.

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SUPPLEMENT

FROM GEORGIA.

How the DemoCrats Se-cured Their Big Ma-jority. The Facts.

WAYCROSS, GA., Oct. 16, 1892.

EDITOR VOICE: I have not until today been able to get correct reports from over the state, but today our side of the sham election came out and it is just as I expected, but not one bit worse. Following are a few facts that you can make use of as you think best.

In Wilkes county every precinct that gave a Populist majority was thrown out under an alleged technicality, while precincts having the same flaw, but giving Democratic majorities were counted.

In Wilkinson county without any legal authority more than 100 names were struck from off the register just a few days before election, 90 per cent. of which were Populists.

In Ware county, (this personally I know) a minister of the gospel rode several miles to spread the lie that the leaders of the party in Waycross had taken down the ticket and given up the fight and advised all to vote for Democracy and this with a prayer not yet dry on his hypocritical lips. The Democratic chairman promised us one election officer at each precinct, promised us, too, in black and white several days before the election, but the night before positively refused. One drove of over forty negroes were driven to the polls and voted by their bosses. Two or three of the drove boiled and voted their convictions and the proprietor of the mills where they were employed promptly discharged them, not even allowing them to ride home in the special car upon which he had brought his gang to vote them. Money was used like water and so was whiskey. These facts regarding Ware county are not hearsay.

Now to give an idea of what these more prominent in the party say, I will give a few items from letters: W. L. Peck, our candidate for governor: "White men in debt were threatened, tenants were intimidated, employees were refused time to vote or told to vote the Democratic ticket or be discharged." "They went so far as to rob the poor house in my own county, hauling some, who on account of lunacy cannot find their way back when a hundred yards from the poor farm." "A noted hall was filled with negroes, who were made merry with mean liquor, locked in for the night, breakfasted the next morning and headed by the leading moneyed men of the city were marched in a line to the polls and voted as soon as they were opened. It was also circulated that if I was elected governor of Georgia, I should not take my seat, but should die the death of Lincoln and Garfield."

Listen at that, you wide-mouthed, crack-brained fools of the Republican party. That sounds like a "Democratic scheme," doesn't it? If I were in the north, I hardly think I could keep my hands off of the man who would tell me that the new party was a "Democratic scheme," but if I did succeed in keeping my hands off him, I would feel very much like telling him that he was either a contemptible liar or a pitiable ignorant, long-eared, braying sort of an animal that some people called a jackass. Here is from a letter by M. D. Irwin, chairman of our state committee: "The colored voter, whose every interest is with that of the laboring white men, were bull-dozed, intimidated, driven from the polls and in some instances shot for attempting to vote as they pleased."

"In some places Democratic officers had professional witnesses to swear out warrants against innocent colored people to prevent their voting for the People's party. There is no doubt but the working classes, white and black, would have voted with the people, if left uninfluenced by bull-doing and intimidation."

"It was a premeditated plan by the leaders of the Democratic party. The orders were sent out for 70,000 majority and said orders accompanied by at least \$200,000 worth of

but the readers of the VOICE can rely upon their reliability for they are published in the People's Party Paper over their own signatures and it is to that paper I am indebted for most of these extracts.

Another trick: Democratic tickets were headed, "Free School Tickets" and thousands of ignorant negroes were made to believe that if they voted any other it would be against free schools. This was clearly an illegal ticket, but not one of them was thrown out.

In Hancock county, Gov. Northern's own home, Rev. H. S. Doyle, a colored minister was approached by a crowd who attempted to cut his throat, but his friends got him away and saved his life. This, however, was not the first attempt. Once before a crowd, led by the mayor of the town, went to his parsonage for the purpose of mobbing him in broad daylight. He happened to be away, but the crowd went all through the house with pistols, searching for him. Mr. Doyle is now compelled to leave home for safety. It is no secret—men have openly sworn it—that they mean to have his life, hence he is an exile, driven from home because he dared to tell his people what he believed was right.

In Albany, our men discovering that ballots were being substituted at the polls, twenty-five tickets were soiled, so as to be easily distinguishable, but the manager put in the box none but clean tickets. Twelve witnesses saw no less than fifty changes go into the box in succession, then a voter folded his ticket in diamond shape and passed it in. The manager who took it dropped his hand behind the box and when it came up he held a long-folded, clean, white ticket which went into the box. At one precinct in the same county where every voter favored the People's party, the polls were not opened at all and about 400 voters were deprived of voting. At Rockersville in Elbert county, J. W. Rucker and a number of others were quietly going to the polls, when one B. H. Heard saw some negroes in the company who had at one time lived with him and bore the name of Heard. He commenced cursing them for voting against the Democrats. Rucker tried to quiet him, but got a cursing for his efforts. He (Rucker) then said if any one of the negroes wanted to vote the Democratic ticket they had a perfect right to do so. They all said they did not want to. This made Heard so mad that he struck an old negro with a wagon standard and the negro's son then struck him (Heard). He then rushed across the street and got a double-barrelled shot gun and deliberately shot down two of the negroes, one of which has since died. Geo. Hall, another white Democrat, drew his pistol and shot three other negroes. The negroes had committed no crime, but were going to vote the People's party ticket. A mob then surrounded Rucker and his crowd and after beating them most cruelly, finally drove them from the polls.

In Bullock county counterfeit money was used to buy votes with. In Richmond county they shot and killed a negro preacher for trying to induce his colored brethren to vote the People's party ticket.

Northern carried his own county, but in addition to the facts given already, here are a few more. In one precinct three miles from the Governor's home the vote stood, Northern, 10; Peck, 148. This was too much for the Democrats and they threw out the precinct. At the Pameltown precinct, Northern attended the polls in person, but the People's party came out 150 votes ahead. This was also thrown out. In the county seat, (Sparta), negroes were driven from the polls to the music of pistol shots. So it went all over the state, until one grows sick and ashamed that he is living in a land of barbarians, who mock civilization. Let no one doubt but these are facts. I cannot vouch personally for all of them, but then I have seen enough to know. I know that Thos. E. Watson, M. D. Irwin and Col. Peck are honorable gentlemen and have always stood as high as anyone in Georgia, until they renounced allegiance to Democracy.

The other facts, not given by these gentlemen in their published letters, are from what I am firmly convinced are reliable sources and the situation is not overdrawn. It is not half told and never will be, but we are not discouraged. We are in the fight to stay and will break the back of Bourbonism yet. But we do not want to stain our hands with blood, even though that blood be the blood of heathens, for the Democrats are nothing less. Let us see what we have done in a little more than three months that we have been organized: done in the face of all the bull-doing, intimidation and frauds that could possibly be used against us. On almost every field we had the best of the argument in debate and the d. o. p. had the rotten eggs and the jeers. Nearly all over the state we had the crowds. The Democrats had to resort to lying to get any one to listen to them and they would announce some of our prominent speakers as

coming to divide the time, when no such thing had been proposed. We ought to have won by long odds at least 25,000 had we had any show whatever. The entire power is in the Democrats hands and we are powerless. We have, however, polled one-half the white vote and we are in the fight to stay. If any one doubts it, hear what our leaders have to say. Tom Watson, who is one of the pluckiest, truest men living, says in a private letter to the writer that he will never give up as long as he lives and that we will win if we keep in the middle of the road. If every one could read his brave, true words in the People's Party Paper, they would never doubt; he closes by saying: "Here is one man who means to fight for the sacred cause until they fold his exhausted hands over his breast. Who will follow?"

Col. Peck says: "Ours was a campaign of poverty without a dollar, without an ambulance to carry the weak who fell by the wayside, without trained political generals; we have fought a good fight and have enlisted in our cause more than half the white voters of Georgia. The fight is on and there will be no grounding of arms, no white flag raised, until our demands are granted. We never expect to kiss the hand that smites us or to lap like a dog; neither do we intend to heed that Satanic voice crying, 'come back.'"

M. D. Irwin says, "We don't need men with cotton strings for backbones in this fight. We want men who will stand up for their rights to the finish. * * * Stand by your colors and relief will come through victory."

Dr. L. C. Mattox, candidate for congress in the Eleventh district, says, "We may yet be forced to submit for a time, but never to surrender." And so it goes all over the state. Don't be afraid. The reformers of the south are in to stay and if we had a Republican form of government every southern state would be found in the reform column in November. You men who fought and bled to free a few black slaves are needed now, not to bleed and die, but to vote as free men to free both white and black slaves of the south and to restore the union here. We have no Republican government here and never can have as long as political battles are fought on the old sectional lines. Our party, in its first conflict, has polled more votes than the Republicans ever have since the war.

The two old parties are sectional parties and must always remain so. The People's party has split the solid south wide in two. An overwhelming vote for the reform party, in the west means certain death to Bourbonism in the south. We may not be able in the face of frauds to show majorities this year, but never fear; if the west will stick to the fight, in spite of the frauds and bulldozing with which we have to contend, we will win the next campaign. We are not discouraged. There will be no turning back. Already we are considering plans and mapping out the work for the next four years. We are not going to slacken the fire after the November campaign. The fight is on and there will be no let up until we win. Only give us a majority in the west and especially Kansas, so that we can point to it and prove to the people here that sectionalism is dead and the d. o. p. will be the worst whipped party in four years that you ever heard of.

S. L. BISHOP.

Good Looks.

Good looks are more than skin deep, depending upon a healthy condition of all the vital organs. If the Liver be inactive, you have a Bilious Look, if your stomach be disordered you have a Dyspeptic Look and if your Kidneys be affected you have a Pinched Look. Secure good health and you will have good looks. Electric Bitters is the great alternative and Tonic acts directly on these vital organs. Cures Pimples, Blisters, Boils and gives a good complexion. Sold at F. B. SNYDER'S, Drugstore, 50c. per bottle

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ON TO VICTORY.

THE PLATFORM.

Assembled upon the one hundred and sixteenth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the People's party of America, in their first national convention, invoking upon their action the blessing of Almighty God, puts forth, in the name and on behalf of the people of this country, the following preamble and declaration of principles:

The conditions which surround us best justify our co-operation, we meet in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot-box, the legislatures, the congress and touches even the ermine of the bench. The people are demoralized; most of the states have been compelled to isolate the voters at the polling places to prevent universal intimidation or bribery. The newspapers are largely subsidized or muzzled; public opinion silenced; business prostrated; our homes covered with mortgages; labor impoverished, and the land concentrating in the hands of the capitalists. The urban workmen are denied the right of organization for self-protection; imported pauperized labor beats down their wages; a hireling standing army, unrecognized by our laws, is established to shoot them down and they are rapidly degenerating into European conditions; The fruits of the toil of millions are boldly stolen to build up colossal fortunes for a few, unprecedented in the history of mankind and the possessors of these, in turn, despise the republic and endanger liberty. From the same prolific womb of governmental injustice, we breed the two great classes—tramps and millionaires.

The national power to create money is appropriated to enrich bondholders; a vast public debt, payable in legal tender currency has been funded into gold bearing bonds, thereby adding millions to the burdens of the people.

Silver, which has been accepted as coin since the dawn of history, has been demonetized to add to the purchasing power of gold, by decreasing the value of all forms of property as well as human labor, and the supply of

currency is purposely abridged to fatten usurers, bankrupt enterprise and enslave industry. A vast conspiracy against mankind has been organized on two continents, and is rapidly taking possession of the world. If not met and overthrown at once, it forebodes terrible social convulsion, the destruction of capitalization, or the establishment of an absolute despotism. We have witnessed for more than a quarter of a century the struggles of the two great political parties for power and plunder, while grievous wrongs have been inflicted upon the suffering people.

We charge that the controlling influences dominating both these parties have permitted the existing dreadful conditions to develop without serious effort to prevent or restrain them. Neither do they now promise us any substantial reform. They have agreed together to ignore in the coming campaign every issue but one. They propose to drown the outcries of a plundered people with the uproar of a sham battle over the tariff, so that capital, corporations, national banks, trusts, watered stock, the demonetization of silver and the oppressing of the usurers may be lost sight of. They propose to sacrifice our homes, lives and children on the altar of Mammon; to destroy the multitude in order to secure corruption from the millionaires.

Assembled on the anniversary of the birthday of the nation and filled with the spirit of the grand generation who established our independence, we seek to restore the government of the republic to the hands of "the plain people," with whose class it originated. We assert our purposes to be identical with the purposes of the national constitution; to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

We declare that this republic can only endure as a free government while built upon the love of the whole people for each other and for the nation; that it cannot be pinned together by the bayonet; that the civil war is over, and that every passion and resentment which grew out of it must die with it and that we must in fact, as we are in name, be one united brotherhood of freemen.

Our country finds itself confronted by conditions for which there is no precedent in this world; our annual agricultural productions amount to billions of dollars in value, which must within a few weeks or months be exchanged for billions of dollars of commodities consumed in their production; the existing currency supply is wholly inadequate to make this exchange; the results are falling prices, the formation of combines and rings, the impoverishment of the producing class. We pledge ourselves that if given the power, we will labor to correct these evils by wise and reasonable legislation, in accordance with the terms of our platform.

We believe that the powers of government—in other words, of the people—should be expanded (as in the case of the postal service) as rapidly and as far as the good sense of an intelligent people and the teachings of their experience shall justify, to the end that oppression, injustice and poverty shall eventually cease in the land.

While our sympathies as a party of reform are naturally upon the side of every proposition which will tend to make men intelligent, virtuous and temperate, we nevertheless regard these questions, important as they are, as secondary to the great issues now pressing for solution, and upon which not only our individual prosperity, but the very existence of free institutions depend; and we ask all men to first help us determine whether we are to have a republic to administer before we differ as to the condition upon which it is to be administered; believing that the forces of reform this day organized will never cease to move forward until every wrong is remedied and equal rights and equal privileges securely established for all men and women of this country.

THE DECLARATION.

We declare therefore— First—That the union of the labor forces of the United States this day consummated shall be permanent and perpetual; may its spirit come into all hearts for the salvation of mankind.

Second—Wealth belongs to him who creates it, and every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent, is robbery. "If any will not work, neither shall he eat." The interests of rural and civic labor are the same; their enemies are identical.

Third—We believe that the time has come when the railroad corporations will either own the people or the people must own the railroads and should the government enter upon the work of owning and managing any or all railroads, we should favor an amendment to the constitution by which all persons engaged in the government service shall be placed under civil service regulation of the character, so as to prevent the increase of the power of the national administration by the use of such additional government employees.

FINANCE.

We demand a national currency, safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government only, a full legal tender for all debts, public and private, and without the use of banking corporations, a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people, at a tax not to exceed 2 percent per annum, to be provided as set forth in the sub-treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance, or some better system; also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

We demand free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.

We demand that the amount of circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

We demand a graduated income tax.

We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people; and hence we demand that all state and national revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

TRANSPORTATION.

Transportation being a method of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.

The telegraph and telephone, like the postoffice system, being a necessity for the transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

The land, including all the natural resources of wealth, is the heritage of the people and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All land now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens, should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.